



130 Airfield
Royal Air Force
Army Post Office

My darling!

Enclosed is the letter of
Mons that I told you about on the
telephone. Yesterday I did. I received your
letter of Friday. I've quite a while now
- have received no later ones than this.

However - there's a war on & as long as
my mail gets to you in fairly good
time - well that's something - eh?

Darling! - I'm sorry I haven't sent out

last nite when I knew you were calling.
I was all dressed up to go before I remembered
it & I hadn't been off the camp since
last Saturday evening. I just hadda get
some change - that's all!

Most of the time now we are on 24
hour call for anything. I was up this
morning at 4 again. Had a couple of hours
sleep to-day.

Starting please when you call me don't
ask me if I've been on a trip or anything
about the war - 'cause I just have to lie to
you & I don't want to do that like I did
last nite when you asked me. All telephone
calls are being listened too by someone
on the station - both incoming & out-going



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personal calls & before we can telephone off
the camp; I meant to an address off the camp;
we have to get the Commanding Officer's
permission.

I'm sorry about all this Blue eyes but
honest I've gotta watch my step and anyway
"orders is orders" as the saying goes! He should
be able to find lots else to talk about - don't
you think.

I met Russell the other day. He told
me that Bob Kehrer is a p.p.w. now.
I didn't see the little picture in your letter
that I was supposed to return.

For god's sake hurry! take it easy on

4.
that walkin' huh?

I think the days off x 45's - we have had. However perhaps they'll start leave again in a few weeks when things get rolling.

I'm so glad the allowance came through O.K. - so I guess you're happy now huh?

I'm O.K. for shorts - I have a lovely dirty pair which I wear all the time!!

Butch had a letter from Slot too. He told him too - she was thinkin' of takin' the plunge. I'm not so sure she oughta - she may be plunging in the wrong pool. She seems so indifferent about it.

I'm quite sure that she can go to Canada with that guy O.K. And anyway there's always a way of getting out

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of the service isn't there? - What?

I suppose you are wondering what I saw the morning of the invasion. Well I can't tell you what I was doing there but I think you can guess that. But I can tell you that in the success of our efforts depended the lives of thousands of those boys down there in the landing craft. And I think we succeeded O.K. too.

It's a good job you didn't know what was happening to your hubby that morning or you would have died in your bed. Never! if I live to

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he 300 will I never forget that 5 hours
on Tuesday morning! Never have I seen!
and never again will I see! such a
magnificent achievement - such a show! -
such a hell on earth! as I saw between
5 o'clock & 10 o'clock that morning. Never
again will I be so scared!!

He knew nothing about it until the
evening before - when we were told the
whole plan & our part in the actual
landing operations. He was briefed that
evening. I went to bed about 12 but I
never slept a wink - I just lay there
& thought & prayed & shook. I think
everyone did. He was called at 3 a.m.
Had breakfast & we were in the air at 5 a.m.



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It was dark as pitch when we took off
& low cloud about 1000 feet & raining
like a son-of-a-gun. I was leading
green section. He climbed up through
the first layer of muck & set course
for S. Coast where we had to
set course for our target areas. The moon
was shining here & there through
huge mountains of cloud. I couldn't
see the ground at all. I steered my
course as best I could to a degree
& to a few seconds of time. I left

England & headed South for France ^{in cloud}!

It was still raining - we let down to 2000 & came out into a clearer area & we could see the sea below. You've never seen ships until you've seen an invasion! I saw a thousand in 2 minutes! - hundreds & hundreds! Like little toys in a vast sea of dirty grey - all heading one way. The sky was filled with aircraft - literally thousands kept on - in a few minutes I could discern the gun flashes 50 miles ahead. Like little fireflies flickering in the twilight.

In a matter of minutes we were

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right in the thick of it. It was
 soul shaking. The battle was just
 beginning! Hundreds of ships were
 shelling the shore batteries with
 all they'd got! - and more! Their gun
 flashes lit up the sky over the sea!
 Their shells rocked the coast like
 a tree in a hurricane. Pill boxes,
 shore guns, block-houses went up
 in the air in dust like shovels full
 of sand.

In 30 minutes all hell broke
 loose on the coast. Thousands

of bombs ^{is} poured down a devastating
rain of bombs in patterns - ~~exploding~~
whole towns - roads - bridges - gun
emplacements! Villages & towns
went up to 500 feet in dust - the
bomb flashes rose to 1000 feet - a
vivid yellowish-red flame of
death! Everything was on fire!
- towns, woods! The whole coast
line in 20 minutes was covered in
the smoke of battle to 4000 feet!
Petrol & ammo dumps blew sky high
- spouting geysers of flame &
billows of smoke like huge
thunder clouds! The thousands of



men came up in the landing barges
their machine guns blazing low
orange arcs towards the shore -!
shells fell in the water all around - the
german gunners on shore were trying
desperately to stem the terrific over-whelm-
ing flood that was overtaking them!
The sky was absolutely filled with
flack. Five minutes after I was
in it - I felt sure that before another
5 minutes went by I'd be dead. I
was sure of it! For the first few
minutes I was absolutely over-whelmed.

I was stiff in the cockpit - I wouldn't
speak a word over the radio! To me
there was only one place where there wasn't
any flack & that's where my aircraft
was. But somehow when we'd
finished our task for that trip we were
all still intact. I don't know how or
earth Ray ever stayed with me! I
could hardly see my targets at times!
The whole area was covered in a
pall of yellow-black smoke. The
sky was aglow with fire & death.
We got out & we flew back to our
advanced base - refueled & 45
minutes later we were off again



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and again we were in that awful
hail of lead. But if it was bad for
us - it must have been terrific
for the Jermies & for the boys down
there in the berges. And now my
little gal - during the next 30 minutes
is where you almost had your
husband!

At 6000 feet among all that confusion
my engine stopped - of all places! I
called up my #2 & told him to
take over & finish the job - that I
was going to have to crash -

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land in France. I picked a field
& prepared myself for the bang! It by
Le Jannis never shot me & smothered
I know - I was a sitting target! By
a stroke of luck or by the hand of God
or something; on my last approach
to the field at 500 feet I got the
engines running - roughly - but
running! Somehow! - I can't remember -
I got back to England!! Never have
I seen such a wonderful sight as the
coast looked then!

I got back to base about noon &
I wrote a short note to you & I went to
bed. I was dead-tired - my eyes



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ached like fire - I was played right
out!

I have seen a bit of fightin' - but
never have I seen such a sight as
Tuesday morning! - such an achievement
- such a success! - against such odds!

It was absolutely magnificent
Someday - the people of the world
will find out what ~~his~~ taking place really -
is that invasion & what will be taking
place during the next few weeks. It
is absolutely astounding! - I doubt

if even when ¹⁶ they know - if they'll
believe it!

It was a wonderful show - I wouldn't
have missed it for anything. I am
proud I was able to do my little well
bit to help it start on its way. If
you want to know the future honey -
just put me to sleep & I'll tell
you - huh?!

They tell me this evening that
they are making arrangements
for 2 of us to have a day off per
day - so that'll give you a chance
one of these nights to get me some
sleep - perhaps. It's a very wet night

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out to-nite - I forget whether you
said you'd be calling or not to-nite.
Anyway I'll be in if you do.

Get the sign off now - my
darling - I love you - always
& always - don't ever forget
that!

Always - Your Loving!

XXXXXXXX

P.S. My love to Mum!